

Headteacher's Blog March 2021

Reopening Plans

Following the Government announcement that schools are fully reopening from 8th March, I wanted to share some of the arrangements.

- Updated risk assessments will be, to a large extent, the same as those following our previous return from lockdown.
- The Government has made **attendance statutory**, apart from for pupils, or staff, who are 'shielding' (have a Government letter) and should not attend.
- There will continue to be two staff teams and bubbles, so a reduced number of staff have contact with your children.
- Families will be able to drop-off pupils from 8.40 am- younger bubble entering via main door, older bubble entering via 'kitchen' door.
- Nursery morning sessions will be 8.45am-**11.45am**, due to the return of staggered lunchtimes.
- We will continue to minimise the amount of items travelling from home-school, e.g. **no toys from home**, continued use of plastic wallets, **clean pillowcases each week for KS2** pupils (needed on 8th, please).
- Until the summer term, pupils will still need to wear a **clean change of clothes daily**, so uniform is not compulsory and comfortable, suitable clothes will be needed on PE days. (class teachers will confirm PE days)
- **Splash** pupils need a bag of **clean clothes to keep on their peg** at all times.
- Any after school clubs and sports coaching will only take place with pupils from the same bubble. **Cricket KS2 after-school club** will start on **Tue 9th March, 3-4pm**. Please confirm if you want a place before Friday 5th March.
- At the end of the day, school transport children will be taken out first, as before, then parents/carers can enter the entrance area via the metal gate, or back car park gate, to collect children (please come out of car park areas to collect your child/children, as we will send them out to you when you are in the entrance area) - those in the front car park, leaving one-way via the wooden gates.

- There can still be no shared assemblies/acts of worship and lunches will be split, as before, with only the younger bubble using the hall. Daily collective worship will continue to take place in bubble groups.
- Additional cleaning and disinfecting will continue to take place during the day. Staff who need to carry out intimate care tasks, will need to wear masks and other PPE. Staff who would prefer to wear masks more frequently will be supported, although the guidance suggests this is not needed.
- The school office will be fully staffed, but we will still be **only** allowing **essential visitors** in the building, such as educational specialists/SEND professionals.
- Lunch arrangements for your child/children will be the same as in January, unless you tell us otherwise.
- Any pupils who had milk ordered for them will receive it until the end of term.
- **Remote education** will only continue for pupils whose households are **self-isolating**. Regular homework tasks may be provided via the online learning platforms, as previously.
- All staff will continue to have twice weekly Covid-19, lateral flow testing.
- We will continue to depend on families to **keep pupils at home if any household members show any possible signs of Covid-19**, until a negative test is achieved, or they have self-isolated for 10 days. Any pupils with symptoms will be isolated until they are collected from school.

On 28th February, there was a Government press release about household lateral flow testing. I am sure more information will be given out, but please see the initial link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-households-with-children-of-school-aged-to-get-rapid-covid-19-tests-per-person-per-week>

Please get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

We are excited and looking forward to having all of our pupils back with us in person.

Take care and stay safe!

Diane Lakey